

From Private to Field Marshal: Erin's Claim to Early Culture

From Bayonet to Baton In Life of British Soldier

Career of Field Marshal Robertson Is an Absorbing Story of Pluck and Progress

By William L. McPherson

FROM PRIVATE LIFE TO FIELD MARSHAL. By Field Marshal Sir William Robertson. Houghton Mifflin Company, \$2.50.

FIELD MARSHAL ROBERTSON says in his preface: "The only justification for publishing this book is that it describes the climbing of a soldier from the bottom to the top of the military ladder, and even in this feat there is nothing remarkable beyond the fact that it happens to be the first of its kind in the annals of the British army."

The author's story of his unprecedented rise makes interesting reading and throws much light on the conditions in the British service as he saw them at close range from the old Aldershot cavalry barracks room up to the office of chief of the Imperial General Staff. Trooper Robertson showed extraordinary eagerness to master the trade of soldiering from the moment he took the queen's shilling, at Worcester, on November 13, 1877. There were few privates of his type in the old British army, composed, as it was, in those days, of what he calls "old soldiers"—men who made the service a livelihood and often brought their wives and children in the garrison quarters. The average officer of that period gave more time to sport and amusements than he did to study, and Robertson, when once he got his commission, in 1888, had pretty smooth sailing because of his natural aptitude and his zeal for self-improvement through hard work. He served in India, mastered many languages, showed a liking for the information service and was finally assigned to the staff in London. He became successively head of the Foreign Intelligence section of the War Office, commandant of the War College and Director of Military Training. When the great war came in 1914 he was ready for it.

On Western Front

He began his field service as Quartermaster General of the Expeditionary Force and in January, 1915, he became chief of the general staff of that force, under Field Marshal French. In December, 1916, he was promoted to be chief of the Imperial General Staff in London, remaining in that post until February, 1918, when Lloyd George crowded him out.

There are, therefore, many other justifications for this volume than the one noted in the preface. Field Marshal Robertson was in close touch with Allied military policy for more than two years. He could throw much more light on the development of that policy—or negation of policy—than he has done in this narrative. It is unfortunate from the viewpoint of the student of war history that he decided, as he tells us, "to avoid old controversies connected with the supreme direction of the war, and which occur to a greater or less extent in all wars." Such a decision, the author holds, "would only bore the ordinary reader." This is a dubious assumption. A full exposition of the causes of the friction with Lloyd George which cost him his place would make sensational reading, perhaps, and also be of great historical value.

Robertson, having served with French and Haig on the front in France, was a pronounced "Westerner" in strategy. He believed implicitly in beating the enemy where he was strongest. He forgot that, in a coalition war, fought on many fronts and involving intricate political as well as military considerations, it may be the best strategy to attack the enemy at his weakest point. He decides the Allied Eastern campaigns. Yet it is a fact that the Quadruple Alliance went to pieces after Allenby's and Franchet d'Espèrey's victories in the East. German morale collapsed when Turkey and Bulgaria were beaten; for the thing that civilian Germany dreaded most was the carrying of the war from any direction into German territory.

Allied Military Control

Lloyd George, as a civilian, sickened of the wasteful war of attrition in France. He felt that worth while military successes in other fields could be achieved at much smaller cost. The Palestine campaign was his pet project. Robertson had no use for Eastern "side-shows," as he called them. When he openly criticized Lloyd George's Palestine project at an Allied council in Paris early in 1918 a break between the two men became inevitable.

It has been the general impression that Robertson was removed mainly because he opposed unification of Allied military control. He was strongly against the creation at Rapallo in November, 1917, of a supreme war council, composed of the Prime Minister and one other minister of each of the major Allied powers, with an adjunct committee of military advisers. He was equally against the development of this plan later in Paris by which the military advisers became an executive committee, with Foch at its head, empowered, nominally at least, to create and have exclusive direction of an Allied "strategic reserve."

Robertson says that "in setting up the council the real object of the ministers was not so much to provide an effective unit of military command as to acquire for themselves a greater control of the military chiefs." Yet he was willing ultimately to accept the executive committee, headed by Foch, if none but the chiefs of staff of the various powers were to be members of it. Lloyd George didn't want him to be both chief of staff and a member of the executive committee. Lord Derby told him that he could have either place, but not both. He still

Guns and Girls Plotting and Action Color Western Story

THE RIDER OF GOLDEN BAR. By William Patterson White. Published by Little, Brown & Co. \$1.75.

BILLY WINGO, good-natured and easy-going, rides into this story with a clatter of hoofs and quick gunplay. In fact, there are few pages in this active tale of Western life that are not punctuated with the click of triggers or the snap of a speech distinctly brief but packed with meaning. Billy, a clean man, who knows the truth when he sees it, is established as a sheriff by a little group of men determined on controlling and shaping him to their nefarious purposes. It doesn't take Billy long to see just where he stands, and his defiance of the men that would rule him is refreshingly outspoken.

The two or three girls that skip in and out of this story are not to be considered mere accessories. Hazel Walton, who saves Billy's life in a sharp skirmish in the hills, becomes his accomplice for good, finds herself loving him, and endures pretty nearly all possible dangers to save him and hold him in place as a sheriff, fearless and efficient.

"The Rider of the Golden Bar" has one marked feature of excellence for the reader who is gunning for stories with all the snap of the adventurous West. It keeps spinning all the time, builds up interest and is refreshingly human in its picturing of decidedly independent gentlemen free with the gun and not afraid of the bottle.

A Dwarfed Peter

A Boy Enters the Homes of Field Folks

PETER'S ADVENTURES IN MEADOWLANDS. By Florence South Vincent. Published by Frederick A. Stokes Co. \$2.50.

LITTLE PETER saves an oak tree from the axe. He had called it his Wishing Tree, and many a happy hour had he passed beneath its branches. When he prolongs its lease of life by begging his father to spare it, the tree whispers to him through its leaves and tells him how to become tiny and enter on a friendly footing with the small folks of the forest. No sooner said than done, and Peter shrinks to dimensions that permit him to mingle with a world he never had dreamed of, although he had looked down upon it from the stature of a youngster.

And so Peter enters into the family and forest life of many insects and diminutive animals. He goes to an orchestral concert with a grasshopper, visits old man spider in his web, which he climbs with cautious feet, is ushered into the august presence of the Queen Bee and is put on trial by the bees, who make a hero of him after a conflict with a snail. And so on, through a series of adventures with beetles, caterpillars, hornets and wasps, the boy gradually learns the ways and habits of the citizens of the world that lies around us everywhere, in field and forest, even in our homes.

As a stepping stone to the works of Fabre and other students of animate nature, this book is an admirable one to put in the hands of children, for it is accurate in its natural history and woven together around a thread of unfeigned interest for the young boy or girl.

McCræ's Hymn

IN FLANDERS' FIELDS. By Lieutenant Colonel John McCræ, M. D. Illustrated by Ernest Clegg. Late of the Bedfordshire Regiment. British Expeditionary Force. Published by William Edwin Rudge, New York.

AMONG the poems inspired by the late war not one achieved the fame justly given to McCræ's "In Flanders' Fields." The simple beauty of its thought and the purity of its diction gave it recognition by the lover of the fine thing in literature, and by the people of the mass, who almost unerringly sense true values when they meet them. This edition of the poem, superbly illuminated by Ernest Clegg, is limited to 500 copies. In it one finds a brief biography of McCræ, his poem and four colored plates, illustrating lines of the verse. A loose leaf, also illuminated, is printed in a way that fits it for use as a dedication of the little book to any one whom the purchaser desires to honor. We have not seen anything more beautiful in the field of tribute to those who fell in Flanders or in France. The edition should be exhausted speedily.

The Church and Labor

WORK, WEALTH AND WAGES. By Joseph H. Huxford. Published by Mott & Co.

WITH the premise that the Church is the stabilizer of the State, Dr. Huxford develops his argument for an active effort by Christian men to study the difficult problems of capital and labor, with the spirit of Christ ever in mind. The questions arising from the conditions of men at work are not really economic ones. They are religious, for they contain all the phases of man's relations with his neighbors and with the world at large. This is sound sense and the chapters of this book will find indorsement by men of all sects. A concise, reliable presentation of topics which control the interest of all thoughtful men.

A Jewish War Chaplain

A JEWISH CHAPLAIN IN FRANCE. By Rabbi Isaac Levine. Published by the Macmillan Company, \$1.75.

SOME of the noblest episodes of the war are recalled in this story of a Jewish army chaplain's work in France. The author emphasizes the steadfast courage which the men of many creeds and races to whom he ministered almost invariably displayed in the face of death and the merging of all sectarian differences in the conception of a common faith and a common ideal. Cyrus Adler, president of Dropsie College, in Philadelphia, writes a foreword to the book.

A Camp Fire Girl

PEMROSE LORRY, CAMP FIRE GIRL. By Isabel Hornbrook. Published by Little, Brown & Co. \$1.75.

PEMROSE LORRY, daughter of a great inventor who has made a rocket to shoot to the moon, becomes her discouraged father's right hand and comfort when he is in trouble. She is a wholesome youngster, and her story is one that carries an honest lesson that cannot fail to be of service. An unusually good book for young girls. Its scenes in the mountains of western Massachusetts are splendidly drawn.

Book Exhibition

A Fine Private Collection
Now On View At
Stonestreet's
507 5th Ave., Near 42nd,
NEW YORK CITY.



VILJALMUR STEFANSSON and illustration from his book, "The Friendly Arctic" (Macmillan), in which the explorer explores the idea that life in the polar regions is difficult in winter.

Ireland as the Source Of English Civilization

Also as the Savior of European Light and Learning for Centuries After the Fall of the Roman Empire

By Willis Fletcher Johnson

IRELAND AND THE MAKING OF BRITAIN. By Vilhjalmur Stefansson. Published by Macmillan Company, \$2.50.

BRITISH history, indeed, all European history would seem to be as much in need of rewriting, according to this volume, as that of the United States is by some current propagandists declared to be. Between the two cases there are, however, some radical differences. The demand at present vociferously made for a new history of the United States which shall be in the Colonial and Revolutionary era less favorable to England and shall more exploit the influence and part of Ireland is obviously an attempt at a counterblast against the previously made—and well founded—complaints of anti-English misrepresentations in a considerable number of histories. Mr. Fitzpatrick's work, on the other hand, extreme as are many of its statements, bears few if any earmarks of propaganda, and may be regarded as a sincere attempt to define in its true light the place of Ireland in the history of England and of Europe immediately after the fall of the Roman Empire and during the early part of the Middle Ages.

Beyond question there is need of better histories of Ireland before the Norman conquest than those which have thus far been available. Since the appearance of O'Flaherty's "Ogygia," two and a half centuries ago, many so-called histories of Ireland have been written and published, but almost without exception down to the middle of the nineteenth century they were little more than undiscriminating repetitions of the legends and traditions with which Ireland is plentifully supplied. Although that island is one of the richest countries of the world in monuments of the past, and although significant references to it have been made by many geographers and historians, beginning with Nennius and Strabo and Ptolemy, not until seventy years ago was there any worthy attempt made to investigate its antiquities or to collect the materials from which a history could be prepared. Such a work of collection was, however, undertaken with much success by J. O'Donovan and E. O'Curry in the 1850's, and following that achievement Sir John Rhys, J. B. Bury and John MacNeill produced some excellent histories of special men and special epochs, though even they did not venture upon any comprehensive general history. We can scarcely suppose that writers have felt the closing words of Robert Emmet's last speech to be an inhibition against their undertaking a real history of Ireland, though if any did the now impending advent of that country among the nations of the world might be held to fulfill Emmet's condition and to remove the injunction.

It is, however, Mr. Fitzpatrick's scholarly work that is under present consideration and not the books which others have written or—more particularly—failed to write. It may be described in brief as a thesis aiming to prove that upon the fall of the Roman Empire Ireland, which had never been a part of that empire but had developed independently a high degree of civilization, became the chief conservator of European learning and culture, and that following the Roman withdrawal it was the Irish who introduced Christianity into England, and during the entire so-called Anglo-Saxon era were the dominating moral, religious, intellectual and political force throughout practically all parts of the British Isles. Now that is a prodigious proposition, which even Mr. Fitzpatrick will scarcely expect the world to accept as fully proved on the strength of a single book, even one as carefully written and as rich in references to old authorities as his.

Indeed, some of his statements indicate that instead of seeking the golden mean of truth Mr. Fitzpatrick has permitted his zeal for Ireland to carry him almost as far to one side as the most erroneous of the historians whom he denounces went toward the other. There can be no doubt that some English and other historians have seriously erred in minimizing if not ignoring the importance of Ireland during the first dozen centuries of our era. On the other hand, we must wonder if it is judicious to say that to this day "Bede has remained the dearest of English historians," that "there is no more beautiful book in the world than the 'Book of Kells,'" that "the early medieval glosses extant in the Irish tongue exceed the contemporary scholia in all the living languages west of Constantinople put together," and that—on the authority of a Prussian—the efforts of Ireland in the seventh and up to the tenth century to spread her learning among the German and Romance peoples formed "the actual foundations of present Continental civilization." Recognizing, however, the correct-

A Tale With Thrills

THE AVENGER. By Samuel Gordon. The Macaulay Company, New York. \$1.75.

ALL the dear old figures of English melodrama appear in "The Avenger," by Samuel Gordon. We have the young Englishman in the colonies, who learns from a newspaper that he is heir to the title and estates of Sir Jacques Barradine. The news comes just as Clement Barradine, Sir Jacques' eldest nephew, has struck down Will Dallas, his rascally partner, who has just "done" him in a matter of government contract for medals in Cape Colony. Medals must be of considerable value to set men to killing each other. Only Clement—later Sir Clement—had not killed Will Dallas. The thoroughness of Dallas' rascality was proved by his coming to life and fastening himself upon the wealthy Sir Clement. With this Great Shadow upon his life, Sir Clement is in for rough going. He has to pay a handsome monetary tribute to Dallas' brother, who acts as fiscal agent in realizing upon the crime that never was committed.

Sir Clement seeks refuge in good works. Among those he benefits is a slum girl, Sallie, who runs a circular saw in a mahogany furniture factory. But when Sallie learns that her benefactor does not love her she takes up with Curley, her prizefighting admirer, who eventually is hanged for murder. A book to warm the heart if one likes familiar situations, stilted conversations, London police inspection and a final chapter headed: "Run to Earth."

An Unusual Triangle

THE ISLAND. By Bertie Runkle. Published by the Century Company, \$1.75.

RATHER unusual triangular situation comes about in this story. Mr. Carrington, a respectable corporation lawyer, finds that his son, a Yale student, is in love with a beautiful dancer. He visits the girl and comes away impressed by her pluck and innocence. The upshot of the matter is that the boy marries another girl, while the lawyer and the dancer, conscious of their mutual love, forego their happiness from a sense of duty to the lawyer's wife. The war lends a background of service and sacrifice to what is otherwise an engaging romance.

Religious Talks

SUNDAYS IN COLLEGE CHAPELS SINCE THE WAR. By Francis O. Peabody. Published by Houghton, Mifflin Company, \$1.75.

PROFESSOR PEABODY is one of the most persuasive and inspiring moral teachers of our generation, and this new volume of religious talks to college boys is a worthy addition to his predecessors in the College Chapel series. He emphasizes and sums up the contributions which the war made to the spiritual life of our young men—heightened idealism, a keener perception of the things in life which really matter, a higher conception of religion as an instrument of social salvation.

History of England

A SHORT HISTORY OF ENGLAND. Revised edition. By Charles M. Andrews. Published by Allen & Bacon.

THIS new edition of Professor Andrews' work carries the story of the English people through the World War and down to the year 1920, with an important supplementary chapter on the government of the British Empire at the present time.

WEST BROADWAY A NOVEL

By Nina Wilcox Putnam

THERE used to be the Santa Fé Trail and the Oregon Trail—and theirs is a glorious story of adventure. But the up-to-date Trail is West Broadway. It begins at Columbus Circle and runs straightaway to Market Street, San Francisco. The motor car has supplanted the prairie schooner and the pony express. Adventure and tragedy have yielded to thrill and humorous episode. The Trail traverses for 3,323 miles the transcontinental Main Streets of these United States. On the trail you will discover not only America but the American people—and you will find delight and pride in the discovery of great hearts and noble souls and boundless hospitality. And all the way you will

At all Bookshops
DORAN BOOKS

Books for Youngsters

THE SWEDISH FAIRY BOOK. By Fred. J. W. Swenson. \$1.50.

WHEN I WAS A GIRL. By Edith Wharton. \$1.50.

LAND. By S. Louise Patterson. \$1.50.

THE PURITAN TRAIL. By Lucy Fitch Perkins. The Houghton Mifflin Company, \$1.75.

AMERICANS are beginning to learn that there is a vast treasury of significant and beautiful fiction for children in the older nations of Europe. This book, beautifully illustrated, brings to our homes much of the Swedish folklore and legend suitable to the understanding of the child. This translation maintains the naive simplicity of original texts. A book that will prove a gateway to a new world of fancy for all young boys and girls, and even for those of us who refuse to grow old.

A daughter of Switzerland long resident in the United States tells of her early home among the mountains of her native land. Girls from ten to sixteen will learn through the pages of her book why the Swiss love their country so passionately and why they are as a people so brave, resourceful and intelligent.

At this time when the deeds of the Pilgrims and Puritans are being relived in history and pageant, this book, true to the life of the days when eastern Massachusetts was a wilderness with but a few small villages, will give children a very clear idea of methods of Colonial travel and ways of meeting severe problems of existence in the seventeenth century. A wisely planned and successful narrative.

Nietzsche and Wagner

THE NIETZSCHE-WAGNER CONNECTION. Edited by Elizabeth Förster-Nietzsche. Translated by George S. Kaufman. Published by Holt & Co. \$1.50.

THE fact that this book has been extensively discussed in another department of The Tribune precludes a detailed review here. It may be sufficient to recommend the correspondence most earnestly to every one who wishes to gain an adequate understanding of the European culture of the later nineteenth century. Nietzsche and Wagner stand out as the two most significant personalities of this period, and much new light is cast upon their characters in this intimate, personal narrative of their early friendship and ultimate break.

Famous Pets

PIP, SQUEAK AND WHIFFER. By "Uncle Dick." Published by E. P. Dutton & Co. \$1.

A PENGUIN, a rabbit and a puppy figure in these amazing adventures calculated to open wide the eyes of youngsters. This little book has made a hit with all who have seen it, for it combines pictures and text in a wise mingling, one sure to arouse the interest of young children and make them laugh joyously.

LITTLE, BROWN & COMPANY'S Leading January Novels

JUST PUBLISHED THE RIDER OF GOLDEN BAR

By WILLIAM PATTERSON WHITE

William Patterson White's novels of the old West, "Lynch Lawyers," "Paradise Bend" and the others, have been very popular with lovers of adventure stories. But "The Rider of Golden Bar" is White's best. Sheriff Billy Wingo's adventures in driving the cattle-rustlers out of Crockett County, Wyoming, make a stirring tale, full of rapid movement and suspense; while the conversation of Mr. White's strong points—is at all times natural and entertaining. \$1.75

THE HIDDEN PLACES

By BERTRAND W. SINCLAIR

An enthralling story of a modern "Enoch Arden," who comes back from the War to find himself officially reported dead, his wife married again and his fortune spent. This interesting-novel by the author of "North of Fifty-three," "Burned Bridges," etc., possesses the same strength and ruggedness as the locality of its setting, the British Columbia coast. \$1.90

WINNIE O'WYNN AND THE WOLVES

By BERTRAM ATKY

A delightful tale of how a charming, yet unscrupulous, young girl matches her wits against the "wolves" who have designs upon her and her "fortune." The story of Winnie's exploits is remarkable for its subtle and engaging humor, the delicacy with which her escapades are handled, and for its satire. \$1.75

RECENT FICTION SUCCESSES

TROUBLE-THE-HOUSE

By KATE JORDAN

"No one can read 'Trouble-The-House' without shouts of laughter. . . . To the last page you read with huge entertainment and growing sympathy. . . . Susy Gilvray is as real as 'Percy,' and as intensely individual. . . . It is a book as fresh and bracing as a clear wind from the west."—The New York Times. \$1.90

THE WASTED GENERATION

By OWEN JOHNSON

"The 'Wasted Generation' is decidedly Mr. Johnson's best novel. It has the unusual merit that it is a book that will attract men without losing the interest of women. 'The Wasted Generation' takes a very high rank among the novels of the year."—Maurice Francis Egan, in The New York Tribune. \$2.00

MARTIN CONISBY'S VENGEANCE

By JEFFERY FARNOL

"A good sea story, a fine and flashing pirate tale of sheer adventure in the romance-haunted waters of the old Spanish Main. Jeffery Farnol could not write a poor story and this is one of his best."—Philadelphia Ledger. \$2.50

These Books are For Sale at all Book Shops

LITTLE, BROWN & CO., Publishers, BOSTON

Dr. ERNEST M. STIRES praises with enthusiasm

ANDIVIUS HEDULIO

ADVENTURES OF A ROMAN UNDER THE EMPIRE
By EDWARD LUCAS WHITE, Author of "El Supremo"

"Here is that rare event—a book for ever. . . . Recently I asked a junior at Harvard whether he thought the book too long. He replied: 'It was too short,' and I heartily agreed. From first to last the six hundred pages propel you, until with the fascination of the story and the swiftness of the action you are almost breathless. I recommend this book without reservation, and lay it down with the full intention of reading it again." \$2.00. Any bookshop can supply it; if not, it can be had from E. P. DUTTON & CO., 681 Fifth Avenue, New York